

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheet" of drawings includes changes to Figure 2. The attached "Replacement Sheet," which includes Figure 2, replaces the original sheet including Figure 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet 2/3

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-29 and 31-35 are now pending in the application. By the present amendment claims 5, 13 and 30 have been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

DRAWINGS

A replacement drawing sheet has been submitted for Figure 2 to correct a typographical error changing the word "Recurd" to "Record" at reference 136. No new matter has been added. Entry of the accompanying Replacement Drawing Sheet is therefore respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 12-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner believed that for claim 12, it was unclear whether §112, sixth paragraph, has been invoked for the claim elements "publication manager, subscription manager, subscription router" because the phrase "means for" or "step for" was not used, and further because the Examiner believed that no specific structure had been recited in the claim to perform the functionality in the claim limitation. For claim 24, the Examiner also believed that this claim was unclear from the standpoint that the Examiner was unsure whether §112, sixth paragraph, had been invoked for the claim element "publisher, subscribe, the publisher and subscriber

architecture” because the phrase “means for” or “step for” had not been used, and further because the Examiner felt that no specific structure is recited to perform the functionality in the claim limitation. In response to these rejections, very minor amendments have been made to claims 12 and 24 to make clear that the publisher/subscriber architecture is implemented via a processor. It is believed that this amendment removes the ground for rejection under this section and reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 12, 13, 17, 22-25, 30, 32, 35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schwesig et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. US 2005/0010635, hereinafter “Schwesig et al.”). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Initially it will be noted that independent claim 12 has been amended to more positively recite that each of the publication manager and the subscription manager include a protocol translator for translating information they handle from a one protocol to another. For the Examiner’s convenience claim 12 is set forth in full below as follows:

12. *(Currently Amended) An agent, to be interposed between a first network and a second network, the agent comprising:*
an interface to a specific entity, the specific entity interface including a first protocol for communicating with the specific entity over the first network; and
a network interface to a publisher/subscriber architecture on the second network, the publisher/subscriber architecture including:
a publication manager that determines which one of a plurality of remote entities is to receive a first quantity of information that is received by the agent from the specific entity and published by the agent; [[and]]
a first protocol translator associated with the publication manager for translating the first quantity of information from a first protocol to a second protocol when required;

a subscription manager that establishes at least one subscription for the specific entity to receive publications from at least a selected one of the plurality of remote entities;

a subscription router that receives the publications from the selected one of the remote entities;

a second protocol translator associated with the subscription manager for translating the publications from a third protocol to a fourth protocol when required;

a subscription and publication table that the subscription router accesses to hold subscription information pertaining to which ones of a plurality of different entities are to receive subscription information from the subscription router, and to identify that the subscription information is to be transmitted to the specific entity; and

the subscription and publication table also holding publication information as to which one or more of said pluralities of remote entities said publications from said specific remote entity are to be published to.

Schwesig et al. does not disclose or suggest using separate protocol translators for its components that handle publication and subscription duties. Furthermore, from paragraph 0024 of Schwesig et al. cited by the Examiner, it appears that the Schwesig et al. system does not make use of a "protocol translator" as this limitation is used in claim 12 and explained on page 9, lines 23-29, of the present application. Paragraph 0024 of Schwesig et al. describes that the network 205 actually is made up of a combination of an IP network, such as the Internet, and one or more wireless networks such as a cellular GSM network and an IEEE 802.11 network. It is further stated that the network 205 may include other networks as well. Thus, it appears that the "network" 205 actually has a plurality of different (and likely independent) paths, and the system 200 merely has to determine what format or protocol the information is being received in, or needs to be transmitted in, so that the proper communication avenue can be selected when communicating information from one device to a different device. The paragraph 0082 cited by the Examiner as disclosing "transcoding" does not necessarily

go so far as to say that information is being translated from one protocol to another. It appears that this “transcoding” may in fact simply be reformatting information from one format to a different format rather than actually converting it from one protocol to a completely different protocol. Such a conclusion is buttressed by the above discussed fact that the network 205 is actually made of up several different types of networks. This begs the question as to why the Schwesig et al. system would need a “translator” such as used with the presently claimed system and method, when several different forms of networks are provided to handle different types of communications.

The Examiner is also encouraged to consider that the “Agent” being recited in claim 12 is disposed *between two networks*, rather than itself forming a network, as with the Schwesig et al. device. Schwesig et al. includes the server 215 which is included in the network 205 for assisting with routing the information through the network 205. This is not required with the claimed subject matter as the “Agent” is interfacing between two different networks.

And even assuming, *arguendo*, that Schwesig et al. actually is using some form of translator similar to that being claimed (which the undersigned does not believe to be the case), Schwesig et al. still does not disclose or suggest using *separate protocol translators* for each of a publication manager and a subscription manager. For at least these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the foregoing rejection based on Schwesig et al. is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 5, 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Evans et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. US 2003/0033283). It will be noted immediately that independent claim 1 has been amended along lines somewhat similar to claim 12 to set forth first and second protocol translators. In view of this and the above remarks concerning Schwesig et al., it is believed that this rejection has been rendered moot.

Claims 2, 6, 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Evans et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Giroti et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. US 2003/0018700). Claims 3, 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Evans et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Chou et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. US 2003/0018796). Claims 8-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Evans et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Nedbal (U.S. Pat. No. 7,107,574). Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Evans et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Mueller et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. 2005/0027867). In view of the amendments to claim 1 and the remarks above concerning Schwesig et al., it is respectfully submitted that these rejections have all been rendered moot.

Claims 14, 21, 27-29, 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Giroti et al. Claims 15, 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Chou et

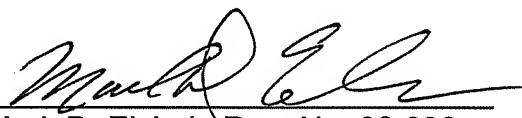
al. Claims 18-20, 34 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of Nedbal. Claim 33 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schwesig et al. in view of McCall et al. (U.S. Pat. Pub. No. US 2002/0188522). In view of the amendments to independent claims 12 and 24, it is believed that these rejections have been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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